tries like Britain, Netherlands, West Germany and France have refused to grant air worthiness certificate to the new aircraft unless certain modifications are carried out by the company; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Air India and Indian Airlines do not have any Boeing 747-400 aircraft in their fleet. It is understood that there is a dialogue under way between American and European Airworthiness Authorities regarding certification standards applicable to Boeing 747-400 aircraft. It is, however, not uncommon for airworthiness authorities in importing countries to lay down additional certification requirements to meet local standards.

Shortage of funds in running National Literacy Programme

*35. SHRI N.E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Literacy Programme continues to suffer from shortage of funds; and

(b) if so, what is the requirement of funds for the programme for the current year and the actual amount provided therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Although the actual availability of funds has been less than the projected requirement, the tempo of the National Literacy Programme has been maintained.

(b) Against the total estimated requirement of Rs. 227.88 crores (Rs. 167.90 crores in the Central Sector and Rs. 59.98 crores in the State Sector), the actual allocation during the current financial year is Rs. 132.09 crores (Rs. 76.17 crores in the Central Sector and Rs. 55.92 crores in the State Sector).

Excess expenditure incurred on Apna Utsav

*36. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the justification for the excess expenditure incurred, as against the approved budget of Rs. 5.5 crores for the festival "Apna Utsav" as pointed out in the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General;

(b) what methodology was adopted to monitor the expenditure incurred by the various agencies;

(c) what action has been taken by Government for non-furnishing of the certificates in respect of the utilisation of grants by the concerned Zonal Centres; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government for irregular payments made to the artists by the National Cultural Festival Delhi Society without framing any norms in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Against the approved estimates of Rs. 4.90 crores a sum of Rs. 5.70 crores was released. Actual expenditure assessed, however, is Rs. 5.51 crores. The excess over initial estimates was primarily due to increase in number of artistes, increase in number of days of Festival, publicity and on site development.